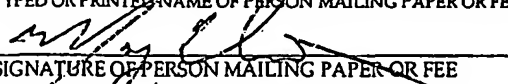




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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of)
JOHN J. TOBEN, ET AL.) Examiner: Garcia, Ernesto
on DUCT FASTSEAM) Group Art Unit: 3679
Serial No.: 10/688,734) Confirmation No. 2477
Filed on: September 23, 2003) (Our Docket No. 6006-0141-1)

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

SIR:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed March 14, 2006, the time for
response extending to June 14, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of
the existing rejection in view of Applicants' amendments and remarks below.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 3.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4.

Remarks begin on page 7.

Conclusion begins on page 10.

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